

increased by 30%, excluding one-time sales; McKesson's and Cardinal's were up 8% and 13%, respectively. Yost's total paycheck last year (including stock options) was \$4.8 million, less than half that of Cardinal's CEO and barely a sixth of McKesson's chief. "He is not flamboyant or flashy," says Banc of America Securities analyst Robert Willoughby, of Yost's inclination to be modest. Adds John W. Ransom of Raymond James & Associates: "At 1% margins, you have to be."

Now he's under even more pressure to watch the bottom line as his customers struggle to stay competitive. Amerisource relies heavily on smaller, independent chains that are fast being gobbled by big players, who may have contracts with the distributor's rivals. But Yost predicts volume will pick up over the long term. "The older we get, the more drugs we take," says Yost, settling comfortably into a 1970s-era plaid chair (the weathered green leather chair at his desk, which he inherited from the previous CEO when he took over in 1997, looks like a yard sale find).

George Barrett, the CEO of Cardinal's drug distribution arm, says that what matters in a leader isn't frugality but foresight. "I don't want our people to see me as cheap but instead very efficient and cognizant of the environment in which we compete," says Barrett. But Yost insists he can be all those things. While he pays competitive salaries to attract talent, he allows employees to fly business class only if they pay for an upgrade themselves. And they must book 30 days in advance to get the best price. Yost is also investing more than \$100 million over the next three to five years to improve customer service technology, and he paid \$400 million to spruce up company distribution centers and consolidate operations.

THE PAYOFF

Of course, new technology also brings new ways to save money. Plant employees now wear wrist bands connected to a thimble device on their finger that uses an infrared laser that reads the bar code of what they unload or pick up. Workers who move more product than average receive bonuses for the time they've saved the company.

If that sounds Orwellian to some, Yost doesn't much care. While the Amerisource chief may not be eager to spend a buck, he certainly knows the value a dollar holds for others. Amerisource has returned more than a third of its free cash flow to shareholders for the last two years and used the rest for core acquisitions. "The landscape is littered with companies that think they can do a lot of businesses well," says Yost, adding that he no longer trots out the cliché "stick to our knitting" because he fears it makes him sound stodgy. "We're focused on knitting faster, better, and more creatively than anyone else."

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, DBE, and the Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, ACDBE, programs that are vitally important components of the aviation programs we are extending today. These programs are aimed at remedying discrimination

to ensure that all American businesses have a fair chance to participate in the business opportunities available at our Nation's airports. The DBE and ACDBE statutes and regulations have been carefully crafted and narrowly tailored to meet the rigorous constitutional standards established by the Supreme Court in *Adarand v. Peña*. As a result, all of the U.S. Federal circuit courts that have considered the constitutionality of the DBE program since the end of the *Adarand* litigation have found the statute and corresponding Federal regulations to be constitutional.

The bottom line is that, despite the assertions of some critics, the DBE and ACDBE programs remain necessary. Discrimination against minority and women business owners continues to plague airport-related industries in both the traditional contracting arena and in the concessions context. Here in Congress, we see the academic and statistical evidence and we hear the stories of business owners that confront discrimination. We know that the evidence is compelling and abundant. For instance, disparity studies have been conducted across this Nation make clear that minority and women owned businesses receive far fewer contract dollars than we would expect in a discrimination-free market. Each disparity study is a little bit different, but most of them contain both statistical and anecdotal evidence of the ongoing existence of discrimination. When these studies are considered as a group the results couldn't be clearer: discrimination continues to be a problem for African-American, Hispanic-American, Asian-American and Native American business owners and for women business owners. This is true in every airport-related industry and in every corner of our Nation.

Earlier this month, Don O'Bannon, chair of the Airport Minority Advisory Council, AMAC, testified in the Senate about the discrimination that airport-related businesses confront. His testimony revealed the severity of the bias that minority and women owned airport-related businesses continue to confront. At that same hearing Mr. O'Bannon also submitted to the record a few of the many disparity studies that have documented discrimination in airport contracting with statistical evidence. While these studies, from Dallas, Texas, the State of Maryland, Denver, Colorado, Phoenix, Arizona, Nashville, Tennessee and Broward County, Florida, represent only a fraction of the airport-related studies that have been conducted, they all tell the same story: discrimination still makes it impossible for our Nation's minority and women owned businesses to contribute fully to our national economy.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support the continuation of the DBE and ACDBE program and look forward to working with my colleagues to strengthening and improving these programs in the months ahead.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER WAN KO YEE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Master Wan Ko Yee, a permanent resident of the United States, on the occasion of the publication of

HH Dorje Chang Buddha III, A Treasury of True Buddha-Dharma, wherein Master Yee has been recognized within the traditions of his religion as the revered master and holy leader of Buddhism.

Buddhism is the world's fourth largest religion after Christianity, Islam and Hinduism, with over 6 million Buddhists in the United States and 360 million adherents of Buddhism world-wide. H.H. Dorje Chang Buddha III, A Treasury of True Buddha-Dharma, is a book that contains testimonies and affirmations through written proclamations in accordance with Buddhist traditions in recognizing the primordial Dorje Chang Buddha.

Copies of H.H. Dorje Chang Buddha III, A Treasury of True Buddha-Dharma were presented to the Library of Congress at a special ceremony I attended with many other Members of Congress and Buddhist Dharma Kings and Rinpoches from around the world. The book was provided to every Member of Congress as a reference source and is being placed in all Buddhist Temples and public libraries by The International Buddhism Sangha Association, a nonprofit organization headquartered in San Francisco, CA.

Master Wan Ko Yee, who was born in Sichuan, China, is now a permanent resident of the United States and resides in California. Like many in the history of our country, he came with his wife and two children, to this land where there is greater opportunity and freedom to teach and practice religion. Master Yee, who is preparing to become a citizen of the United States, stated, "The American people are kind and noble. People can freely believe in religion in the United States, a country that is spiritually wealthy, powerful and blessed."

It is not my intention by this statement to endorse one religion or religious leader over another. Rather I rise to congratulate Master Yee for his many years of selflessly contributing to relieving the suffering of human beings, furthering world peace and promoting spiritual enlightenment through his teachings of Buddhism. I join his peers in recognizing Master Wan Ko Yee as the true incarnation of the primordial Buddha and commend him for his outstanding contributions to his community, his new country, his religion and all human beings throughout the world.

HONORING COREY ALAN STORTS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Corey Alan Storts of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Corey is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Corey has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Corey has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Corey Alan Storts for his